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FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6337
INFO RUCNIRA/IRAN COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA PRIORITY 0037
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 1067

CONFIDENTIAL SOFIA 000525

STPDTS

C O R R E C T E D COPY PARA MARKING

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/17/2019

TAGS: PARM KNNP MNUC IAEA IR PREL AORC

SUBJECT: BULGARIA SUPPORTS USG POSITION ON IRAN, BUT

NONCOMMITTAL ABOUT STATEMENT AT UNGA

REF: STATE 95073

Classified By: CDA John Ordway for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) Charge delivered reftel points to Bulgarian Deputy Foreign Minister Marin Raykov on September 16. Bulgaria agrees that Iran must respect the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions and adhere to the regulations of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). However, Bulgaria is hesitant to commit to a statement on Iran at the UNGA until it consults with its European partners and further assesses the potential consequences on the trial of a Bulgarian citizen detained in Iran for drug smuggling. If convicted, the Bulgarian faces the death penalty and Raykov highlighted Bulgaria's need to proceed cautiously with Iran until the trial is concluded. ORDWAY